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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/736,663

12/16/2003

Denise M. Butler

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EXAMINER

VO, QUANG N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2625

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/13/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/736,663	Applicant(s) BUTLER ET AL.	
	Examiner Quang N. Vo	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/16/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaneko et al. (Kaneko) (Pub. No.: 2002-032013) in view of well know art.

With regard to claim 1, Kaneko discloses a method for making written documents available to the visually impaired, comprising: generating machine readable information (paragraph 0021), and tactilely readable information (paragraphs 0008, 0015); and scanning a document (paragraphs 0021, 0024).

Kaneko does not teach a cover sheet including machine readable information. However it is well know in the art that a fax including a cover sheet (Official Notice). Since Kaneko's invention is for visually impaired person and Kaneko's suggested of using machine readable information (paragraph 0012) and tactilely readable information ^{to assist} visually impaired person.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide a cover sheet including machine readable information for summarizing the faxed document for the visual impaired person.

With regard to claim 2, Kaneko discloses wherein the document includes at least one user-selectable parameter, and the method further comprises selecting the at least one user-selectable parameter (paragraph 0020).

With regard to claim 3, Kaneko discloses wherein selecting the at least one user-selectable parameter includes checking a box on the sheet (paragraph 0020).

With regard to claim 4, Kaneko discloses wherein the at least one user selectable parameter includes at least one email address (paragraph 0013).

With regard to claim 5, Kaneko discloses wherein the at least one user selectable parameter includes a database (paragraph 0032).

With regard to claim 6, Kaneko discloses wherein the at least one user selectable parameter includes a group printer (paragraph 0010).

With regard to claim 7, Kaneko discloses further comprising tactilely reading the cover sheet (paragraphs 0013, 0015). Here, by using FAX. It must have a cover sheet.

With regard to claim 8, the subject matter is similar to claim 1. Therefore the rejection on claim 8 is the same as rejection on claim 1.

With regard to claim 9, Kaneko discloses wherein the sheet also contains user selectable markings (paragraph 0024).

With regard to claim 10, Kaneko discloses wherein the tactilely readable markings includes a description of the user-selectable features (paragraphs 0024, 0025).

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With regard to claim 11, Kaneko discloses wherein the user selectable markings include at least one email address (paragraph 0013).

With regard to claim 12, Kaneko discloses wherein the tactilely readable markings include Braille (paragraph 0015).

With regard to claim 13, Kaneko discloses wherein the machine readable markings include a bar code (paragraph 0015).

With regard to claim 14, Kaneko discloses wherein the machine readable markings includes glyphs (paragraph 0015).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Vo whose telephone number is 5712701121. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM-5:00PM Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler M. Lamb can be reached on 5712727406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Quang N. Vo 6/6/07
Patent Examiner



KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER